

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A
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SUBJ: RECENT ARRESTS AND TRIALS

REF: TEHRAN 1879

1. PRESS MARCH 2 GAVE ROUND UP OF THOSE ARRESTED AND STILL FACING CHARGES AND SAID THAT 18 PEOPLE HAD BEEN DETAINED OVER PAST TWO DAYS FOR DISTRIBUTING SUBVERSIVE MARXIST LEAFLETS (ILLEGAL UNDER IRANIAN LAW) AND SHOUTING SUBVERSIVE SLOGANS. FIVE WERE ARRESTED FEB 28, 13 MORE MARCH 1. BOTH GROUPS INCLUDED GIRLS, BUT NO NAMES ARE GIVEN.

2. FOUR TEHRAN POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS WILL BE TRIED BEFORE LOCAL MAGISTRATE ON CHARGES OF CREATING CAMPUS UNREST, BREAKING WINDOWS AND SETTING BUILDINGS ON FIRE. THE FOUR-- MASOUD SALIMI, HADI MOUSAVI, NASSAR RAVANI, AND FARID SHAHPOUR WERE ARRESTED LAST WEEK IN WAKE OF FEB 20 EVENTS AT SEVERAL UNIVERSITIES (REFTEL).

3. NINE COLLEGE STUDENTS FROM TEHRAN UNIVERSITY'S FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND COMPUTERS AND 26 FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE INDEPENDENT COLLEGE OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE (TEHRAN) WILL ALSO BE GOING TO TRIAL IN CIVIL COURT ON SIMILAR DISORDER CHARGES (NAMES BEING POUCHED).

4. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE EXAMINER TOLD PRESS THAT, BEYOND THESE, 40 STUDENTS REMAIN IN CUSTODY AS RESULT OF VIOLENCE OVER PAST TWO MONTHS.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE IF THOSE
PICKED UP FOR DISTRIBUTIONG "MARXIST" LITERATURE ARE
FINALLY PROSECUTED AND ON WHAT GROUNDS IN WHICH COURT.
THUS FAR ALL STUDENTS PICKED UP HAVE BEEN TRIED ON
DISORDER-RELATED CHARGES; ARRESTS FOR PASSING SUBVERSIVE
LITERATURE HAVE ALSO BEEN HANDLED IN CIVILIAN CHANNELS,
AN IMPROVEMENT OVER PRE-APRIL 1977 PRACTICE.
MIKLOS

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